

## CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2  
SECTION: 4.3  
TITLE: CORONARY ATHERECTOMY

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AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(a)(1) and (c)(2)(i)

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### I. EFFECTIVE DATE

CHAMPVA beginning date of coverage for the coronary atherectomy procedure is dependent on the date of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of the catheter for use in performing the coronary atherectomy procedure (i.e., effective date of coverage for a coronary atherectomy procedure using the Roto Blader is May 28, 1993, etc.).

### II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

92995 and 92996

### III. DESCRIPTION

The coronary atherectomy procedure is an angiographic technique used to cut atheromatous plaque from the wall of a coronary vessel. Once the plaque has been cut away it is then removed by use of suction.

### IV. POLICY

The coronary atherectomy procedure may be cost-shared when performed utilizing a catheter, which has been approved by the FDA for usage in performing the coronary atherectomy procedure, and when performed on patients who are acceptable candidates for coronary artery bypass surgery and who meet one or more of the following selection criteria:

1. has single vessel atherosclerotic coronary artery disease with a stenosis that is discrete and subtotal;
2. has multiple vessel coronary disease that in the physician's judgment does not pose undue risk to the patient;
3. has had prior coronary artery bypass graft surgery and has stenosis or restenosis of the graft; or

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4. has had prior coronary percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) and has a restenosis of the native vessel.

**\*END OF POLICY\***